

Update to Parishioners of St. Mary's, Sacred Heart and St. Philips – December 4, 2020

A blessed Advent to all!

1. Advent – where we can build the solid foundation for the rest of the Church liturgical year
This Thursday in the gospel for the day Jesus said that those hear his words and put them into action are like the man who built his house on rock. Jesus had been a carpenter so speaks of life as building a house. Let us use the Advent season to renew our relationship with the Lord through prayer, scripture reading and service to others. This will give us a “good foundation” to build on as we live out the new liturgical year that has just begun.
2. Our sympathies to all the family members, friends and former parishioners of +John Walsh (Badger), +Msgr. Gerald Noesen (former pastor at Leo), and +Msgr. Michael Patnode (former pastor of Greenbush). Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and to all friends and loved ones who have died in recent times.
3. Please keep in prayer all who are ill or recuperating from illness: David Schafer, Gene Millner, David and Linda Desjardins, Nate and Steph Olafson, Pam Terry and Sharon Petrowski and others.
4. Opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession during Advent – It would be best to stop any of the churches to pick up a copy of the December calendar or else go to the tri-parish website: roseaucatholic.org and find the calendar there or list of events for the week on the home page. **Roseau (in the old sacristy)** – Wednesdays: 11 am to noon; Fridays: 6:30 - 8:00 am; Saturdays: 4-4:45 pm; Sat. Dec. 19: 10:30 – noon, or else by appt. at any time. **Badger (in the first classroom)** - Wed. Dec. 9 and 16 from 6:30-7:30 pm; Mon. Dec. 21 – 6:30 – 9:00 pm and before Mass on Sunday. **Falun (in entrance sacristy – with screen or face to face)** – before Mass on Sunday or Sat. Dec. 12 from 10:30 to noon. ----- You can also check with **Greenbush** and **Warroad** for their reconciliation times.
5. Christmas Mass Schedule – Christmas Eve – 5:00 PM at Roseau and 7:00 PM at Badger.
Christmas Day – 9:00 AM at Falun and 10:30 AM at Roseau.
6. New Year's Day (Holy Day – Mary, Mother of God) Mass schedule
New Year's Eve – 7:00 at Falun
New Year's Day – **(Correction)** – **9:00 am** at Badger and **10:30 am** at Roseau
7. Live-streaming of Mass – 10:30 am on Sunday – go to the parish website for the tab to get a quick link to the live-stream on Facebook Live-stream of Christmas Day Mass will be at: 10:30 am on Christmas Day.
8. Tech help is available from Joe Roseen (RHS Senior at Sacred Heart) Call him at **452-0756**. He can help you connect your phone or device to your TV or get logged on to Formed, and more.
9. Recent Rise in Covid Infections has made all more cautious about attendance at Mass – I would remind all that churches have not been a sites for infection though we still are places where we congregate and some without knowing it may be carrying Covid and possibly spreading it. Nevertheless, we do practice spacing and mask wearing and are together for a

limited time and if Sundays seem to have more persons present than you are comfortable with I would offer weekday Masses as an option or even the 5:00 pm Mass at **Falun** which has quite low attendance as well so that you can receive the Eucharist at least occasionally.

10. The founder of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Michael McGivney, was beatified on Oct. 30 – You can find an excellent 27- minute video on his life on You-tube. He was quite a parish priest and died quite young. See You-tube -- “Fr. Michael McGivney: An American Blessed”

11. Roseau – Final Payment made to Contractor for Building Project – We still have an amount due to the architect, but payments to contractor are completed. A summary of the building project costs is being worked on. Meanwhile, we are making payments of \$5,355 per month on our \$800,000 loan from the diocese. Enough people have pledged and are contributing to presently meet that payment, but I ask all parishioners who can to take up their share of responsibility in contributing to this much needed improvement to our facilities. It is not good stewardship of our gifts to pay unnecessary funds for interest any more than we have to and to not take up our share of responsibility for our parish building. --- Once we get the architect’s bill in (any day now) and know where we stand we will be looking at getting a few items of furniture for the gathering space and family room and the option of memorials and gifts to that need.

12. Advent programs and options – still time to get in these

A. On Formed (go to the tri-parish website for the link and information on how to get registered) They have a 4-week Advent program with a study guide.

B. Dynamic Catholic – go to BestAdventEver.com to sign-up for daily short videos.

C. Bible Study – Living the Word – moving forward from Advent The “Living the Word” Bible study is available on the Diocese of Crookston web site to any parishioner who is seeking a basic Bible study experience. The Office of Formation in Discipleship presented this as an “Advent Bible Study” and we are holding zoom sessions this month. Still, the Bible study is suitable for use at any time of the year and so individual parishioners or groups can use it at any time. They can access the bible study by going to the Diocese of Crookston web page, click on “Discipleship” and then on “Bible Study” that appears in the drop-down menu.

D. Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays from 3:00 pm to 7:30 at Roseau. Please sign up for a half-hour slot of time if you can but otherwise just come during that time or stop and visit with Lord at any time at **Roseau or Badger.**

E. Individual Virtual Retreat – Dan Schutte Music Advent / Christmas Retreat --- A Path to Hope – with Dan Schutte – 18 sessions of music and reflections -- \$100 per registrant

13. Thank you for the support you have given to St. Mary’s Mission Appeal Please support this local mission of our diocese and check out the wonderful video at <https://player.vimeo.com/video/478108515>

I pray that you are persevering through these trying times and having a blessed Advent. Call me or the parish office (463-2441) if you have any concerns or questions. – Fr. John